

PATENT APPLICATION  
Docket No. 14458.41

In re application of

Darcy W. Greep et al.

Serial No.: 10/021,607

Filed: December 12, 2001

For: UTILIZATION OF A MULTI-CHARACTER MATERIAL IN A SURFACE COATING OF AN ELECTROSURGICAL INSTRUMENT

Confirmation No.: 7181

Examiner: Aaron F. Roane

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## PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that the shortened statutory period that was set for responding to the Supplemental Office Action dated August 29, 2003 be extended for three months until February 29, 2004.

Check No.135801 in the amount of \$475.00 is enclosed herewith for payment of the fee associated with this Petition, as set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.17. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee or to credit any overpayment in connection with this Petition to Deposit Account No. 23-3178.

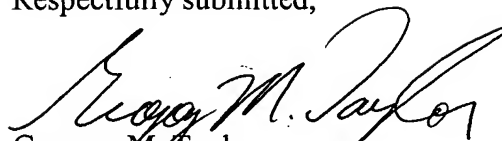
If an additional extension of time is required, please consider this a petition therefore and charge any additional fees that may be required to Deposit Account No. 23-3178.

Commissioner for Patents  
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Dated this 28<sup>th</sup> day of February 2004.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gregory M. Taylor". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Gregory" written in a larger, more prominent script than the last name "Taylor".

Gregory M. Taylor  
Attorney for Applicants  
Registration No. 34,263  
Customer No. 022913

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